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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Japan	**REPORT NO.**	(b)(3)
SUBJECT	TSUJI Masanobu and KODAMA Yoshio	**DATE DISTR.**	7 September 1954
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		REFERENCES	

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE. THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

1. TSUJI Masanobu, leader of the Jiei Domei (Self Defense League), has thus far refused to join the Kyukoku Undo (National Salvation Movement) because of the violent action group within the Movement. However, he may be forced to go along with the Movement in order to maintain his position of leadership among rightists. TSUJI opposes the views of such fanatics as INOUE Nissho[1], who has declared that everyone in his organization, the Nippon Kakushin Renmei (Japan Reform League), is prepared to sacrifice his life for the sake of ridding the Japanese Government of undesireable elements; and TANI Masayuki of the Junjoku Seinen Tai (Martyrs Youth Corps), who made similar statements during a tour of Hokkaido in 1953. TSUJI has always been very popular in those areas which are steeped in Samurai tradition, and it is from those areas that he has drawn support for his election to the Diet. However, if he continues his so-called independent stand in defiance of the ultranationalist groups, he will find himself faced with concerted opposition. TSUJI has indicated that he will hold out, but since he has never before been the target of ultranationalist enmity, only time will tell whether he can maintain his present stand. Followers of TSUJI have stated that they expect TSUJI's prestige to increase this year because so many people are losing faith in the present government but cannot accept either Socialist party as possible alternatives.[2]

2. KODAMA Yoshio, who is the leading figure behind the Junkoku Seinen Tai, is believed to have lost favor with many rightists because of his involvement in the Hozen Keizai Kai scandal and his reported leadership of "goon squads" for the presidents of the Hokkaido Colliery and Steamship Company, Ltd., and the Kanegafuchi Textile Company (Kanebo). Many rightists feel that KODAMA has exploited the ultranationalist movement for personal gain. This loss of prestige has resulted in a decrease of support from his financial supporters. One source of income, the Hokkaido Construction Company (Hokkaido Kensetsu K.K.), is reportedly losing money and its financiers, the Hokkaido Colliery and Steamship Company, is hesitant about giving further assistance because of the recent scandals. There are rumors that KODAMA has been making trips to Hokkaido recently, but these trips are believed to be strictly on business.[3]

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(b)(3)

1. [redacted] Comment. For additional information on INOUE Nissho, his views and activities, see [redacted] (b)(3)

2. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] TSUJI recently told members of the Jiei Domei that he is the one to lead Japan "out of the depths." For additional information on TSUJI and the Jiei Domei, see [redacted] (b)(3) (b)(1)

3. [redacted] Comment. Additional information on KODAMA and ultranationalist activities in Hokkaido is reported in [redacted] (b)(3)

LIBRARY SUBJECT AND AREA CODES

[redacted] (b)(3)

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